DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC GROWTH OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE SERVICES

EFFECT OF 2005 PA 306 AMENDMENTS ON NUMBER OF EMPLOYERS USING HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION SERVICES AND NUMBER OF ENROLLEES RECEIVING SUCH SERVICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Wednesday, January 30, 2008
Michigan Library and Historical Center
702 West Kalamazoo Street
Lansing, MI 48915
Lake Superior Room, Ground Floor – 10:00 a.m.

Ken Ross, Acting Commissioner of the Office of Financial and Insurance Services, Department of Labor and Economic Growth, will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 30, 2008, starting at 10 a.m., in the Lake Superior Room on the Ground Floor of the Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI 48915, to receive public comments that will assist him in determining whether the greater copayment and coinsurance levels allowed by 2005 PA 306 have increased the number of employers who have contracted for health maintenance organization (HMO) services and whether these levels have increased the number of enrollees receiving such services.

The Acting Commissioner is seeking advice and input from any HMO operating in Michigan, from any Michigan enrollee receiving HMO services, from any employer offering HMO services, from any public interest group, and from any independent person or source with information pertinent to the effect of the 2005 amendments to Chapter 35 of the Michigan Insurance Code, MCL 500.3501 to MCL 500.3580, on HMO enrollment and services.

Under MCL 500.3515 – available at www.legislature.mi.gov - the Commissioner must hold a public hearing by February 1, 2008. By May 15, 2008, the Commissioner must submit a report to the Legislature explaining his determination of whether the greater copayment and coinsurance levels authorized by 2005 PA 306 have resulted in increased use of HMOs by employers and whether these levels increased the number of enrollees receiving HMO services. The report must delineate specific examples of copayment and coinsurance levels in force and contain suggestions to increase the number of persons enrolled in HMOs.

The Acting Commissioner will accept oral and written comments at the public hearing site until the close of the public hearing on January 30, 2008 and will accept written comments submitted electronically to Brian Sydnor at sydnorb@michigan.gov or faxed to 517-335-1727 by 5 p.m. on January 30, 2008. Any comments including statistics should also supply the source of the statistics. The Commissioner is especially interested in receiving testimony that includes specific examples of copayment and coinsurance levels in force, as well as suggestions to increase the number of persons enrolled in HMOs.

The hearing site is accessible, including handicapped parking. Individuals attending the meeting are requested to refrain from using heavily scented personal care products in order to enhance accessibility for everyone. People with disabilities requiring additional accommodations, such as information in alternative formats in order to participate in the hearing, should contact Brian Sydnor toll free at (877) 999-6442 or at (517) 373-4362 as soon as possible, preferably 7 working days before the hearing.